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23. A method for the isolation of polysaccharides, wherein the following steps are carried out:

- (a) mixing of a bacterial polysaccharide fraction with a detergent solution;
- (b) addition of alcohol to a final concentration which is below the concentration at which the polysaccharide precipitates;
- (c) mixing the solution;
- (d) filtering the solution by way of a deep bed filter;
- (e) separation of the polysaccharide from detergent and alcohol.

24. The method of claim 23, wherein the alcohol is ethanol.

25. The method of claim 23, wherein the separation of the polysaccharide is carried out by the precipitation of the polysaccharide by adding more alcohol.

26. The method of claim 23, wherein the polysaccharides stem from gram-negative bacteria.

27. The method of claim 26, wherein the gram-negative bacteria are selected from the genus consisting of Haemophilus, Neisseria, Klebsiella and Escherichia.

28. The method of claim 23, wherein the detergent is an anionic surfactant.

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29. The method of claim 28, wherein the anionic surfactant is an alkyl sulfate, for example sodium dodecyl sulfate (SDS).

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30. The method of claim 28, wherein the surfactant concentration in the solution added to the polysaccharide fraction in step (a) is at the most 20% (w/w).

31. The method of claim 30, wherein the surfactant concentration in the polysaccharide solution is 0.1% to 4% (final concentration, w/w).

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32. The method of claim 23, wherein in step (b) the alcohol is added to the solution to a final concentration which is approximately 10 % below the concentration at which the polysaccharide precipitates.

33. The method of claim 23, wherein the initial concentration of polysaccharides in the polysaccharide fraction is greater than 10 mg/ml.

34. The method of claim 23, wherein the filtration is carried out by means of a polymer filter.

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35. The method of claim 23, wherein the polymer filter and/or the deep bed filter is a polypropylene filter.


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36. The method of claim 26, wherein the gram-negative bacteria is selected from the group consisting of Haemophilus influenzae (type b), Klebsiella pneumoniae, Neisseria meningitidis and Escherichia coli.---

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If the Examiner would like to discuss any of the issues raised in this Amendment, Applicant's representative can be reached at (619) 678-5070.

Please charge any additional fees, or make any credits, to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

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